

*Office of the Governor*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following bills:

**S-400**, which amends the Map Filing law to exempt certain right of way maps from Department of Transportation projects currently in progress from the law's requirement that such maps be drawn by a professional land surveyor. The bill provides that the Map Filing Law shall not apply to the filing of any right of way parcel map in connection with highway, road or street construction for which construction bids are advertised on or prior to July 1, 2001.

The bill also delays the effective date of the DEP's requirement that certain maps be filed with the DEP in digital until July 1, 2000. DEP's digital requirement mandates that upon renewal of a Discharge Prevention, Control and Countermeasure permit, companies shall submit any land use map and/or map identifying an environmentally sensitive area in digital form.

S-400 was sponsored by Senators Andrew R. Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Assembly Members Alex DeCroce (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Francis L. Bodine (R-Atlantic/ Burlington/Camden).

**A-1672**, sponsored by Assembly Members David C. Russo (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Wilfredo Caraballo (D-Essex), adds judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit to the list of persons permitted to solemnize marriage under state law. Under previous law, the following persons were permitted to solemnize marriages between persons who may lawfully enter into the matrimonial relationship: federal district court judges, municipal judges, surrogates, county clerks, certain local officials, ministers and religious organizations.